

Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of storing a collection of digital images on a storage medium, comprising the steps of:
 - a) inputting a group of images for which corresponding image files are available;
 - b) displaying, to a user, the group of images for which corresponding image files are available;
 - c) prompting the user to select a plurality of images from the group;
 - d) receiving ~~user~~ input from the user by which the user selects one or more images from the group;
 - e) prompting the user to save the selected images as an album of images;
 - f) receiving an instruction from the user to save the selected images to a storage medium as an album of images;
 - g) making a copy of each image file that corresponds to one of the selected images to result in image file copies;
 - h) compressing the image file copies; and
 - i) saving, to the storage medium, the compressed image file copies that correspond to the selected images.
2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of making a contact sheet image including a user-selected album title having a font and color selected by the user, the contact sheet image further including representations of the images contained in the album.
3. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of automatically resizing the image file copies so that the selected images, when displayed, will have a resolution not exceeding a resolution required for optimal viewing on a standard display.
4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 further comprising the steps of:
 - a) automatically adjusting one or more of the image file copies to include one or more modifications; and
 - b) in the saving step, ensuring that the adjusted image file copies are saved as compressed adjusted image file copies.

5. (original) The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of saving, to the storage medium, a file that contains parameters of the album, wherein the file allows a user to automatically recreate the image album for further duplication or modification.

6. (currently amended) A computer-readable carrier containing instructions thereon that are capable of instructing a computing device to:

- a) input a group of images for which corresponding image files are available;
- b) display, to a user, the group of images for which corresponding image files are available;
- c) prompt the user to select a plurality of images from the group;
- d) receive ~~user~~ input from the user by which the user selects the plurality of images from the group;
- e) prompt the user to save one or more of the selected images as an album of images;
- f) receive an instruction from the user to save the one or more selected images to a storage medium as an album of images;
- g) make a copy of each image file that corresponds to one of the one or more selected images to result in one or more image file copies;
- h) compress the one or more image file copies; and
- i) save, to the storage medium, the one or more compressed image file copies that correspond to the selected images.

7. (previously presented) The carrier of claim 6, wherein the instructions are also capable of instructing the computing device to make a contact sheet image including an album title and representations of the one or more images contained in the album.

8. (previously presented) The carrier of claim 6 wherein the instructions are also capable of instructing the computing device to automatically resize the one or more image file copies so that the one or more selected images, when displayed, will have a resolution not exceeding a resolution required for optimal viewing on a standard display.

9. (previously presented) The carrier of claim 6, wherein the instructions are also capable of instructing a computing device to:

- a) automatically adjust the one or more image file copies corresponding to the one or more selected images to include one or more modifications; and
- b) in the saving step, ensure that the one or more image file are saved as compressed adjusted image file copies.

10. (previously presented) The carrier of claim 6 wherein the instructions are also capable of instructing the computing device to save, to the storage medium, a file that contains parameters of the album, wherein the file allows a user to automatically recreate the image album for further duplication or modification.

11. (currently amended) An apparatus for the creation of a digital photo album comprising:

- a) means for inputting a group of images for which corresponding image files are available;
- b) means for displaying, to a user, the group of images for which corresponding image files are available;
- c) means for prompting the user to select a plurality of images from the group;
- d) means for receiving ~~user~~ input from the user by which the user selects one or more images from the group;
- e) means for prompting the user to save the selected images as an album of images;
- f) means for receiving an instruction from the user to save the selected images to a storage medium as an album of images;
- g) means for making a copy of each image file that corresponds to one of the selected images to result in image file copies;
- h) means for compressing the image file copies; and
- i) means for saving, to the storage medium, the compressed image file copies that correspond to the selected images.

12. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for making a contact sheet comprised of a user-selected album title having a font and color selected by the user and including representations of the images contained in the album.

13. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for automatically adjusting the image file copies so that the selected images, when retrieved from the storage medium, will display in resolutions appropriate for a standard television screen.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

- a) means for prompting the user to make one or more modifications to any of the selected images;
- b) means for automatically adjusting the image file copies corresponding to the selected images for which the user makes one or more modifications so that said image file copies result in adjusted image file copies that include the one or more modifications; and
- c) means for ensuring that the image file copies that have resulted in adjusted image file copies are saved as adjusted image file copies.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising means for saving, to the storage medium, a link that allows a user to view the image files that are stored on the storage medium as an album of images.

16-31. (canceled)